IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (currently amended)   A method for providing operational protocols to medical diagnostic systems, the method comprising the steps of:

storing a <u>plurality of different modality protocols</u>protocol on a machine readable medium;

<u>establishing network links to a first modality diagnostic system or a second modality diagnostic system at the medical diagnostic location;</u>

displaying user viewable indicia descriptive of <u>at least one of</u> the <u>plurality of different modality protocols</u>protocol at a medical diagnostic location <u>on one of the first and second modality diagnostic systems</u>;

selecting <u>the at least one of</u> the <u>plurality of protocols</u>protocol via a user interface;

verifying a subscription status for the <u>medical</u> diagnostic location; and

loading the <u>at least one of the plurality of protocols</u>protocol at the medical diagnostic location from the machine readable medium <u>to one of the first modality diagnostic system and the second modality diagnostic system</u>.

2.   (currently amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein the user viewable indicia include a textual description of <u>at least one of</u> the <u>plurality of protocols</u>protocol.

3-4   (canceled).

5.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1, comprising the further step of transmitting an authorization prompt to the medical diagnostic location based upon the verification of the subscription status.

6.   (currently amended)   The method of claim 1, comprising the further step of storing record data indicative of the selection and loading of <u>the at least one of</u> the <u>plurality of protocols</u>~~protocol~~.

7.   (currently amended)   The method of claim 6, wherein the record data includes financial record data for invoicing the medical diagnostic location for <u>at least one of</u> the <u>plurality of protocols</u>~~protocol~~.

8.   (original)   The method of claim 6, wherein the record data includes data representative of a time expiring subscription.

9.   (currently amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of selecting <u>at least one of</u> the <u>plurality of protocols</u>~~protocol~~ includes selecting a graphical interface device of an on-screen menu.

10.   (currently amended)   The method of claim 1, comprising the further step of transferring at least one configuration parameter based upon the <u>at least one of the plurality of protocols</u>~~protocol~~ to a scanner controller for execution of <u>at least one of</u> the <u>plurality of protocols</u>~~protocol~~.

11.   (original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the machine readable medium includes a memory device remote from the medical diagnostic location.

12.   (currently amended)   The method of claim 1, comprising the further step of accessing product configuration data representative of a hardware or software configuration of <u>one of the first modality diagnostic system and the second modality diagnostic system</u>~~a medical diagnostic system~~, and displaying the indicia based upon the configuration data.

13.   (original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the indicia are sortable by image parameters.

14.   (currently amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one of the plurality of protocolsprotocol includes data for filming, viewing, reconstructing or processing images reconstructed from image data.

15-22   (canceled).

23.   (currently amended)   A method for providing an operational protocolsprotocol for a medical diagnostic systemssystem, the method comprising the steps of:

storing at least two protocolsthe protocol for at least first and second diagnostic systems of first and second respective modalities on a machine readable medium;

displaying indicia descriptive of the at least two protocolsprotocol in a protocol menu of a user interface on the first or the second diagnostic system;

selecting one of the at least two protocolsthe protocol from the menu;

verifying a subscription status thereby allowing access to one of the at least two protocolsthe protocol; and

transmitting data defining at least one operational parameter from the machine readable medium to a system controller for execution of one of the at least two protocolsthe protocolin the first diagnostic system or the second diagnostic system.

24.   (currently amended)   The method of claim 23, wherein the indicia include a textual description of one of the at least two protocolsprotocol.

25.   (canceled).

26.   (original)   The method of claim 23, wherein the step of selecting includes actuation of a graphical button on an on-screen display.

27.   (currently amended)   The method of claim 23, comprising the further steps of establishing a network link between the <u>first diagnostic system and the second</u> diagnostic system and a remote service facility and transferring a description <u>of one</u> of the <u>at least two</u> protocols~~protocol~~ from the service facility to <u>one of</u> the <u>first diagnostic system and the</u> <u>second</u> diagnostic system for display in the menu.

28.   (currently amended)   The method of claim 23, comprising the further steps of establishing a network link between the <u>first diagnostic system and the second</u> diagnostic system and a remote service facility and transferring data defining <u>one of the at least two</u> protocols~~the protocol~~ from the service facility to <u>one of</u> the <u>first diagnostic system and the</u> <u>second</u> diagnostic system in response to selection of <u>one of the at least two protocols</u>~~the~~ ~~protocol~~ from the menu.

29-40   (canceled).

41.   (currently amended)   A method for obtaining ~~an~~ operational protocols~~protocol~~ in ~~a~~ medical diagnostic <u>systems</u>~~system~~, the method comprising the steps of:

viewing <u>at least one of</u> a <u>plurality of</u> protocol <u>lists</u>~~list~~ on a user interface at <u>a first</u> ~~the~~ medical diagnostic system <u>of a first modality and a second medical diagnostic system of a</u> <u>second modality</u>;

selecting a desired protocol from the <u>at least one of the plurality of protocol lists</u>~~list~~;

establishing a network link <u>from one of the first medical diagnostic system and the</u> <u>second medical diagnostic system</u> with a remote protocol library;

verifying a subscription status for access to the <u>desired</u> protocol;

accessing data from the protocol library defining the desired protocol; and

transmitting the data from the protocol library to one of the first medical diagnostic system and the second medical diagnostic system.

42. (currently amended) The method of claim 41, wherein the protocol library includes the plurality of protocols for a plurality of diagnostic system modalities, and wherein each of the plurality of protocol liststhe protocol list includes only protocols for one of the first a modality or the second modality of the second medical diagnostic system.

43. (currently amended) The method of claim 41, comprising the further step of transmitting data descriptive of the desired protocol to one of the first medical diagnostic system and the second medical diagnostic system for addition to the at least one of the plurality of protocol listslist.

44. (currently amended) The method of claim 41, comprising the further step of authorizing a fee for the desired protocol.

45. (original) The method of claim 44, comprising the further step of updating a fee file in response to authorization of the fee.

46. (previously presented) A system for providing operational protocols to a plurality of medical diagnostic scanners, the system comprising:

at least one storage device for storing data defining a first modality protocol and a second modality protocol;

a license module for verifying a subscription status regarding the first and second protocols;

a messaging module for formulating messages containing data descriptive of the first and the second modality protocols; and

communications circuitry for establishing network links to first and second modality diagnostic systems and for transmitting data descriptive of the first modality protocol to the

first modality diagnostic system and data descriptive of the second modality protocol to the second modality diagnostic system.

47.   (original)   The system of claim 46, the network links to the first and second modality diagnostic systems are initiated by the communications circuitry.

48.   (original)   The system of claim 46, wherein the first modality is a magnetic resonance imaging modality.

49.   (original)   The system of claim 46, wherein the first modality is a computed tomography imaging modality.

50.   (original)   The system of claim 46, wherein the first modality is an x-ray imaging modality.

51.   (currently amended)   A method for providing an-operational protocolsprotocol for a-medical diagnostic systemssystem, the method comprising the steps of:

storing the-a plurality of protocolsprotocol for first and second medical diagnostic systems of first and second modalities, respectively, on a machine readable medium;

verifying a subscription status for access to the plurality of protocolsprotocol;

transmitting a description of the plurality of protocolsprotocol to a-one of the first medical diagnostic system and the second medical diagnostic system; and

displaying the description of the plurality of protocolsprotocol at one of the first medical diagnostic system and a second medical diagnostic system.

52.   (currently amended)   The method of claim 51, comprising the further step of transmitting data defining at least one operational parameter from the machine readable

medium to a system controller for execution of <u>one of</u> the <u>plurality of protocols</u>~~protocol~~<u>on one of the first medical diagnostic system and the second medical diagnostic system.</u>

53.   (currently amended)   The method of claim 51, wherein the description includes a textual description of <u>one of</u> the <u>plurality of protocols</u>~~protocol~~.

54.   (canceled).

55.   (currently amended)   The method of claim 51, further including the step of selecting <u>one of</u> the <u>plurality of protocols</u>~~protocol~~ from a protocol menu displayed at <u>one of the first medical diagnostic system and</u> the <u>second medical</u> diagnostic system.

56.   (currently amended)   The method of claim 55, wherein the selecting step includes actuation of a graphical button on an on-screen display.

57.   (currently amended)   The method of claim 51, comprising the further steps of establishing a network link between the <u>first and second medical</u> diagnostic <u>systems</u>~~system~~ and a remote service facility and transferring the description of <u>one of</u> the <u>plurality of protocols</u>~~protocol~~ from the service facility to <u>one of the first medical diagnostic system and</u> the <u>second medical</u> diagnostic system for display.

58.   (currently amended)   The method of claim 51, comprising the further steps of establishing a network link between the <u>first medical diagnostic system and the second medical</u> diagnostic <u>systems</u>~~system~~ and a remote service facility and transferring data defining <u>one of</u> the <u>plurality of protocols</u>~~protocol~~ from the service facility to <u>one of the first medical diagnostic system and</u> the <u>second medical</u> diagnostic system in response to selection of <u>one of</u> the <u>plurality of protocols</u>~~protocol~~ at <u>one of the first medical diagnostic system and</u> the <u>second medical</u> diagnostic system.